

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 694

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to honor Bruce Davis on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, many moons ago, Bruce Davis left his ancestral home in Pocahontas, Arkansas, to pursue a career in finance and budget with the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a mere thirty years later, Bruce is looking at us in his rearview mirror as he departs Capitol Hill to explore the highways and byways of this great nation in his camper, with his faithful canine companion, Luke, riding shotgun and flashing the victory sign; and

WHEREAS, during his illustrious career with the Volunteer State, Mr. Davis has worked in the Budget Office for the Department of Finance and Administration, the Administration Office of TACIR, the Budget Office for the Department of Environment and Conservation, and since 2008, the Office of Legislative Budget Analysis, where he has wormed his way into the hearts of his fellow bean counters and legislators alike; and

WHEREAS, although his work performance has always been impeccable, Bruce most definitely is not a morning person, and he struggles to get to the office on time despite his close proximity; as a matter of fact, he lives in the legislative garage in his camper and is still often late; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Davis has never willingly missed a meal, and it is best for everyone involved if he has a snack and a drink during committee meetings; otherwise, he gets cranky and gets sent to timeout; and

WHEREAS, it is also best for everyone involved if the items on Bruce's desk remain in the places where he precisely placed them, as he is very particular about most things, excluding his penmanship; and

WHEREAS, his handwriting is so bad that a translator is usually needed, preferably one with experience in deciphering the Rosetta Stone; and

WHEREAS, while the legislature is notable for its chaotic work environment, Bruce Davis enforced order and safety as the fire captain for the Rachel Jackson Building; wearing his trademark plastic red fire hat, he calmly conducted his colleagues to the safety of the nearest bar during drills; and

WHEREAS, except for Luke, Mr. Davis loves Chick-fil-A milkshakes more than anything else in the world, categorically stating that "you haven't lived until you have had one"; and

WHEREAS, although some might question this preference in fast food, Bruce's milkshake brings all the possums to his yard, especially at night; and

WHEREAS, clad only in his sleeping attire, Bruce has been known to chase down, assassinate, and dispose of any possum invading his yard, bravely protecting Luke from these nefarious varmints, who don't even have the decency to wear pajamas; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Davis has ably represented the Office of Legislative Budget Analysis on the State Building Commission for a number of years; he is very thorough in his approach and asks many questions, most of them about locating a Chick-fil-A in every State office building; and

WHEREAS, in the time-honored legislative tradition, Mr. Davis is a gentleman of some eccentricities; his colleagues have seen him driving to work in the rain, one hand on the steering wheel and the other holding an umbrella toward the sky to avoid replacing the hard-top roof on his Jeep; and

WHEREAS, a small-town boy at heart after all these years in Nashville, Mr. Davis will always have a special place in his heart for family and school reunions and all things relating to Arkansas, including his hometown of Pocahontas, the University of Central Arkansas, where he

earned his bachelor's degree in business and finance, and Arkansas State University, from which he received his master's degree in business; and

WHEREAS, Bruce hopes to explore new avenues during the golden years of retirement, especially environmental preservation, a subject of small legislative interest; and

WHEREAS, for thirty years, Bruce Davis has been a model of loyalty, efficiency, and diligence as an employee of the State of Tennessee, and he has had about enough of that; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Bruce Davis of the Office of Legislative Budget Analysis on the occasion of his departure from these hallowed halls, thank him for his service as fire captain and food critic, and extend to Bruce our best wishes as he and Luke hit the open road in search of adventure, the most delicious milkshake, and the world's biggest possum.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.